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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Shousei Yoshida

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EXAMINER

AKBAR, MUHAMMAD A

ART UNIT

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2618

MAIL DATE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/560,967	Applicant(s) YOSHIDA, SHOUSEI	
	Examiner Muhammad Akbar	Art Unit 2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendments filed on 04/20/2007 have been entered. Claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed on 04/20/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Re claim 1 and 5, In response to the applicants arguments with respect to the amended claim 1 and 5 and applicant argues on page 6 and 7 that Tanaka failed to teach "cross correlation constant is a direction constraint to maintain the beam constant in the arrival direction." The examiner respectfully disagrees. Tanaka teaches arrival direction estimation unit (6 of fig.1) which include a correlation calculator for obtaining and averaging the cross correlation function with respect to a plurality of lags. The array weighting coefficient calculator then outputs a weighting coefficient obtained as a result of estimating the arrival direction based thereon (col.4 lines 42-47, lines 50-58, lines 14-17). Therefore, Tanaka teaches a constraint process for obtaining an antenna weight by using weighting coefficient and weighting coefficient calculation to determine accurate arrival direction (i.e. limiting the direction) of the desired signal. Further "constraint process" is a very broad limitation and examiner interpreting constraint process is the controlling/limiting the arrival direction by multiplying weighting coefficient with arrival

direction estimation of a desired signal based on the cross correlation estimation. Thus, rejection is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,379 B1) and in view of Miyoshi (U.S. Patent No. 6,959,169)

Regarding claim 1, Tanaka discloses an adaptive antenna reception method, in which the directional beam of an array antenna (71-0 to 71(m-1) of fig.7) consisting of a

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plurality of antenna elements (#0 to #(m-11) of fig.7) is adaptively formed to receive a desired signal (i.e. signal coming from antenna) and reduces (i.e. suppress) interference signals, multiplexed (78 of fig.8) signals transmitted from a plurality of senders, and the desired signal is corrected based on transmission channel estimation (fig.7,col.1 lines8-29), the method comprising: the first step of adaptively calculate the antenna weight coefficient (a0-a3 of fig.5) according to signals(z0 to z3 of fig.5) received by the respective antenna elements and an error signal (signal has a interference parameters) obtained from the desired signal corrected (calculated by weight coefficient unit 55 of fig.5) based on the receiver channel feedback information (i.e. transmission channel estimation)(see fig,1-7 col.8 lines 38-48); the second step of performing the constraint process for the antenna weight obtained in the first step to maintain the beam gain constant in the arrival direction estimate unit (6 of fig.4) based on the cross correlation function of the estimate of the desired signal (col.4 lines 48-61); the third step of receiving the desired signal through the array antenna using the antenna weight which has undergone the constraint process in the second step (see fig.1,); and the fourth step of estimating the transmission channel (at the channel receiver unit for transmission) of the desired signal received in the third step to correct the desired signal based on the estimation result (see fig.1-7.col.10,lines 10-34). But failed to disclose updating the antenna weight ;and error signal obtained from the desired signal based on transmission channel estimation. However, Miyoshi teaches weight control section calculates a weight based on receive signal from each radio reception section and updated the antenna weight; and error signal obtained from the

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desired signal based on transmission channel estimation (see fig.1, abstract,col.6 lines4-20)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the adaptive antenna weight calculation based on the signal received by the respective antenna elements (as taught by Tanaka) by adaptively updating antenna weight calculation based on error signal technique (as taught by Miyoshi) to enhance performance as system uses instant update information for estimating the channel estimation.

Regarding claim 2, as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Tanaka further discloses the adaptive antenna reception wherein constraint process is performed for the antenna weight using a cross correlation function that indicate direction (i.e. direction vector) that indicates the arrival direction of the desired signal (col.10 lines19-26).

Regarding claim 3, as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and 2 and Tanaka furthermore discloses obtaining a correlation value between signals received by the respective adjacent antenna elements and calculating the average of the correlation values ;and arrival angle (phase) obtained from the correlation function which can be used for calculating a direction based on the arrival angle(col.9 lines 1-66).

Regarding claim 5, Tanaka discloses an adaptive antenna reception in which adaptively form the directional beam (beam former 77 of fig.7) of an array antenna (71-0 to 71(m-1) of fig.7) consisting of a plurality of antenna elements (#0 to #(m-1) of fig.7) is adaptively formed to receive a desired signal (i.e. signal coming from antenna) and reduces (i.e. suppress) interference signals, multiplexed (78 of fig.8) signals transmitted from a plurality of senders, and the desired signal is corrected based on transmission channel estimation (fig.7,col.1 lines8-29) comprising: calculate the antenna weight coefficient (a0-a3 of fig.5) according to signals(z0 to z3 of fig.5) received by the respective antenna elements and an error signal (signal has a interference parameters) obtained from the desired signal corrected (calculated by weight coefficient unit 55 of fig.5) based on the receiver channel feedback information (i.e. transmission channel estimation)(see fig,1-7 col.8 lines 38-48);performing the constraint process for the antenna weight to maintain the beam gain constant in the arrival direction estimate unit (6 of fig.4) based on the cross correlation function of the estimate of the desired signal (col.4 lines 48-61); receiving the desired signal through the array antenna using the antenna weight which has undergone the constraint process(see fig.1,); and estimating the transmission channel (at the channel receiver unit for transmission) of the desired signal received based on the estimation result (see fig.1-7.col.10,lines 10-34). But failed to disclose updating the antenna weight; and error signal obtained from the desired signal based on transmission channel estimation. However, Miyoshi teaches weight control section calculates a weight based on receive signal from each radio reception section and updated the antenna weight; and error

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signal obtained from the desired signal based on transmission channel estimation (see fig.1,abstract,col.6 lines4-20)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the adaptive antenna weight calculation based on the signal received by the respective antenna elements (as taught by Tanaka) by adaptively updating antenna weight calculation based on error signal technique (as taught by Miyoshi) to enhance performance as system uses instant update information for estimating the channel estimation.

Regarding claim 6, as discussed above with respect to claim 5,Tanaka further discloses the adaptive antenna reception wherein constraint process is performed for the antenna weight using a (cross correlation function that indicate direction (i.e. direction vector) that indicates the arrival direction of the desired signal (col.10 lines19-26).

Regarding claim 7,as discussed above with respect to claim 5 and 6 and Tanaka furthermore discloses obtaining a correlation value between signals received by the respective adjacent antenna elements and calculating the average of the correlation values ;and arrival angle (phase) obtained from the correlation function which can be used for calculating a direction based on the arrival angle(col.9 lines 1-66).

6. Claim(s) 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka as modified by Miyoshi as applied to claim 1 and 5 above and further in view of Kobayakawa et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,064,338).

Regarding claim 4 and 8, Tanaka discloses in combination with Miyoshi with respect to claim 1 a adaptive antenna reception at least one path and estimating transmission channel of the desired signal except to generate a multipath combined demodulation signal. However, Kobayakawa teaches to generate a multipath (MP1 to MP n of fig.3) for adding (combined) demodulation signal (see fig.3 col.8 lines9-31).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made an antenna weight calculation based on the signal received by the respective antenna elements (as taught by Tanaka) by adaptively updating antenna weight calculation based on error signal technique (as taught by Miyoshi) to generate multipath for adding demodulation signal (as taught by Kobayakawa) to get higher efficient channel estimation and AAA compatible system.

Conclusion

7. The amendment filed on 04/20/2007 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but it is ineffective to overcome Tanaka et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,379 B1), Miyoshi (U.S. Patent No. 6,959,169) and Kobayakawa et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,064,338) references. This action is made **FINAL**.

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a). A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Muhammad Akbar whose telephone number is (571)-270-1218. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Thursday (7:30 A.M.- 5:00P.M). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on 571-272-7884. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MA

EDAN ORGAD
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER

Edan Orgad 6/10/07